

Washington, DC - Today, Congressman John Adler voted in favor of legislation that will promote a new era of American service and volunteerism. The Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education (GIVE) Act [H.R. 1388] answers the call for all generations to help get the country through the economic crisis by serving and volunteering in their communities. This bipartisan legislation overwhelmingly passed the House of Representatives.

"I urge all New Jerseyans to volunteer in their communities, particularly in this time of economic crisis," said Adler, a Member of the Financial Services Committee. **"New Jersey residents are known for taking care of their neighbors, and this legislation will give our communities the tools they need to recover, while also helping more residents have the ability to give back to others."**

The GIVE Act would more than triple the number of volunteers, from the current 75,000 to 250,000, and increase the education reward they receive to \$5,350 for next year, the same as the maximum Pell Grant scholarship award. The education award would also be linked to match future boosts in the Pell Grant scholarship in order to keep up with rising college costs. The legislation also creates a new national Call to Service campaign to encourage all Americans to get involved in service and would encourage Americans to observe September 11th a National Day of Service and Remembrance.

In addition, the legislation would:

- Strengthen existing service programs and create new innovative programs to expand health care access, provide seniors with help living independently, enhance services for veterans, and help build a green, energy-efficient economy;
- Establish a Veterans Corp to meet the unique needs of veterans and military families;
- Expand the focus of the National Civilian Community Corps to infrastructure improvement, environmental and energy conservation;
- Create new opportunities for Baby Boomers and seniors to serve and volunteer;
- Recruit scientists and engineers into service to keep America competitive